MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Then, may I know whether financial stringency started even in 1924?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*): Subsequent to 1924, revised plan and estimate were got ready, and the estimate amounted to Rs. 25,000. Government considered that too much for this school building, and another revised estimate was called for. And, actually sums *were* sanctioned once or twice. After that, financial stringency began and no provision was made in the Budget.

Resolutions passed at the Travancore Private School Teachers' Conference.

5. *MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received a copy of the resolutions passed at the Travancore Private School Teachers' Conference held in the Mavelikara B. H. School hall on the 13th Dhanu 1109; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the steps taken by them on resolution No. 5 regarding the recruitment of private school teachers to Government service and the removal of the age-bar restriction with regard to those who have entered service in a private school and taken license for teaching before the 25th year of age?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The member is referred to paragraph 5 of G. O. D. Dis. No. 648 of 34/Edn. dated the 30th May 1934, published on page 1158, Part I of the Travancore Government Gazette, dated the 5th June 1934.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I beg to submit a point for the consideration of the Chair. The answer given refers me to some page in some issue of the Government Gazette. Is it possible, Sir, for me now, to make that reference and then ask supplementary questions now?

PRESIDENT: Members are expected to ask questions which relate to matters not within their knowledge and matters on which they cannot themselves get independent information. The answer to your question is contained in the Government Gazette which is a public document and so was available to every one of you. Therefore, the answer given to you is perfectly right.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the order regarding the recruitment of private school teachers to Government service is based on a full enquiry as to their competency for Government service?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Has it been recognised by Government that private school teachers are more competent to teach than raw recruits?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a matter of opinion.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): 'Whether it has been recognised or not' is my question.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a matter of opinion whether Government have recognised it or not.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): 'On a point of order, Sir, whether Mr. Asan's supplementary question relates to a question of fact or a matter of opinion.

PRESIDENT: In the circumstances, I cannot compel the Government member to answer more.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, it is a point for consideration and decision *by the Chair* whether my question relates to a question of fact, as to whether it has been recognised or not, or merely to an opinion.

PRESIDENT: As a fact, has it been recognised by Government or not? The Chief Secretary can answer that question.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, it has been recognised.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): 'Then, may I know why private school teachers are not preferred when fresh appointments are made?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am not aware that the preferential claims of private school teachers have not been considered when fresh appointments are made. Therefore, I claim notice.

Appointments in the Agricultural Department.

6. ***MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*): Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer to my question No. 6 given on 15th November 1933, in this Assembly:

(*a*) whether any post on Rs. 15 per mensem has fallen vacant in the Agricultural Department since the date of the order mentioned in the question;

(*b*) whether any person has been appointed or promoted to a post carrying Rs 15 per mensem in the Agricultural Department since the receipt of that order?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): '(*a*) Yes.

'(*b*) Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether the person, referred to in the answer given on 15th November 1933, has been appointed in the vacancy?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I have answered "Yes."

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